

## **VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

**[www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc)**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on  
**Tuesday, November 18, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**We will meet in the second floor conference room at DEQ's  
downtown office, 629 E Main Street, Richmond VA 23219.**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or  
email [mamassie@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:mamassie@deq.virginia.gov)

### **Meeting Summary: Tuesday, September 16, 2008**

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division  
Valerie Rourke, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division  
Jutta Schneider, Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Division  
Scott Johnson, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Brian Benham, Virginia Cooperative Extension/BSE (conf. call)  
Grier Mills, Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratory  
Services  
George Harlow, US Geological Survey  
Steve Pellei, Department of Health

Our guests were:

Erin James and Hope White, Virginia Tech BSE (conf. call)  
Todd Beach, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division  
Liza Fleeson, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Meade Anderson, Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Division  
Whitney Katchmark, Hampton Roads Planning District Commission  
Gayl Fowler, and Lyn Neira – SAIF Water Wells Inc.  
Michelle Ashworth, AquaLaw  
Doug Phillips, Southeast Regional Community Assistance Program (conf. call)

Agencies not in attendance:

Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy, Department of Business  
Assistance, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and  
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Mary Ann gave an overview of wellhead protection activities within the  
Commonwealth. Steve Pellei, VDH Office of Drinking Water, weighed in on the  
multi barrier approach taken for protection implementation.

## **AGENCY UPDATES:**

### **Department of Environmental Quality**

Mary Ann Massie noted six proposals received in response to the RFP for municipalities interested in wellhead protection implementation. Total request for funding was over \$526,000. Interest in this grant opportunity continues to increase. An evaluation team will meet this week to rank the proposals for grant awards.

Mary Ann reported on the draft EPA regulations for the establishment of a new class of Underground Injection Control wells. The draft regulations will create Class VI wells for the geologic sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>. The regulations can be viewed on line at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2008/July/Day-25/w16626.pdf>

The Chesapeake Bay Impact Crater will appear on UHaul trucks as part of their State SuperGraphics program. Mary Ann reported that DEQ and USGS staff worked with UHaul to bring the crater to life on the side of moving vans throughout the nation. Visit <http://www.uhaul.com/supergraphics/> to learn more about this exciting project.

There were no updates from the Waste Division.

Valerie Rourke, Office of Land Application Programs/Water Div., reported the final Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation is expected to be adopted October 1. Implementation guidance has been drafted for DEQ staff use and is under review.

Valerie noted a technical advisory committee (TAC) is currently meeting on the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) General permit for Poultry Waste Management, specifically for the purpose of developing requirements for persons receiving litter. The last scheduled meeting for this TAC is October 8 in Charlottesville at the Holly Meade Fire and Rescue station.

The first TAC meeting for regulatory amendments related to biosolids (i.e. amendments to the VPDES and VPA Permit Regulations and the Fee Regulation) will be held on October 3 at DEQ's Piedmont Regional Office. The TAC will discuss consistency between the permit regulations and various programmatic issues.

Valerie also noted the hiring of several new staff in the regional offices to conduct field inspections and to prepare permits for biosolids land application. She concluded with a report that DEQ is still awaiting EPA's release of Federal Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) rule. This rule will determine if CAFOs already covered by the VPA General Permit will need a VPDES General Permit as well.

Neil Zahradka remains the primary contact for Office of Land Application program activity. His contact information is [nrzahradka@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:nrzahradka@deq.virginia.gov) or 804-698-4102.

### **Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

Scott Johnson noted budget reductions were an Agency concern. This was echoed by other State representatives at the meeting. Scott continues to serve on the expert biosolids panel and their report to the General Assembly is expected soon. He also noted the panel would be touring a waste water treatment plant in the future and visiting a farm actively applying biosolids. Scott noted the Virginia Biosolids Council was hosting a biosolids technology forum on Wednesday September 17 at the Richmond Center.

Liza Fleeson, VDACS Office of Pesticide Services, reported their Water Quality Management Plan was approved by EPA but hiring restrictions may impact their ability to fully implement the plan.

### **US Geological Survey**

George Harlow reported their continuing cooperation with the DEQ Ground Water Characterization program on maintenance and expansion of the Real-Time Ground-Water Data Network for Virginia. In Southampton County the recently drilled four, 4-inch diameter observation wells completed in the Lower Potomac, Upper Potomac, basal part of the Yorktown-Eastover and upper part of the Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively, are scheduled to be instrumented for real-time data transmission this week. The three 6-inch diameter observation wells recently completed via air-rotary drilling at Montvale Park, Montvale School, and the Otter Creek Solid Waste Collection Center in Bedford County, are scheduled to be instrumented for real-time data transmission next week. Finally, an instrumented observation real-time well should be operational in both Wise and Buchanan Counties in southwestern Virginia by the end of September.

### **Department of General Services, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services**

Grier Mills noted budget concerns at DCLS.

### **Department of Health**

Steve Pellei reported management is currently reviewing the Request For Proposals document to hire a contractor to assist small ground water based systems develop protection plans. The contractor selected will work with prioritized waterworks to develop wellhead protection plans and assist with implementation. Funding is exclusively through the Safe Drinking Water Act and VDH administers the program. Anyone interested in receiving notice of this RFP should email Steve at [steve.pellei@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:steve.pellei@vdh.virginia.gov). Steve also noted they are trying to fill the special projects engineer position.

### **Virginia Tech, Biological Systems Engineering – Virginia Cooperative Extension**

Brian Benham introduced Hope White as the new laboratory manager. Budget concerns as well as issues with DEQ's proposed regulations placing new requirements on non commercial environmental laboratories are central to BSE discussions.

The Master Well Owner Network (MWON) web site should be online shortly. They have MWON training scheduled in October and early spring.

## Department of Housing and Community Development

Wyatt Little provided the following notice of grant awards in the last quarter:

July 25, 2008 Announcement

Virginia Community Development Block Grant/Construction Ready Water and Sewer Fund			
Project Title	Locality	Funding Sources	Funds Total
Convict Hollow Waterline Extension Project	Buchanan, County of	Virginia CDBG/Construction Ready Water and Sewer Fund	\$239,250
<p><b>Project Description:</b> Provide public water to Virginians who currently lack a reliable source of clean water. Construction Ready Water and Sewer Fund grants are awarded to communities with ready-to-start projects that provide water or sewer service to communities of at least 60% low to moderate income households. VCDBG Program. is a federally-funded grant administered by the DHCD since 1982. Virginia receives up to \$19 million annually for this "small cities" CDBG program. Currently, 284 localities in Virginia that do not receive CDBG funds directly from the federal government are eligible for VCDBG funding. Most VCDBG projects benefit low and moderate income persons, while others are targeted for the prevention or elimination of slums and blighting conditions.</p>			

August 8, 2008 Announcement:

Approximately 1.5 million dollars in Water Quality Improvement grants were awarded.

Wastewater Treatment System Construction Grants			
Project Title	Locality	Funding Sources	Funds Total
Upper Exeter Watershed Project	Appalachia, Town of	<p>Southern Rivers Watershed Enhancement Program (SRWEP)</p> <p><u>Local</u></p> <p><b>TOTAL</b></p>	<p>\$613,701</p> <p><u>200,000</u></p> <p><b>\$813,701</b></p>
<p><b>Project Description:</b> The county will provide public wastewater service to 125 households that are currently using individual septic systems, many of which are failing and are discharging grey water into Pigeon Creek. As a result of this project, 9,500 linear feet of four-inch sewer line will be installed and a wastewater collection and treatment system with re-circulating media filter and ultraviolet disinfection will be constructed. The SRWEP is administered in accordance with guidelines and procedures developed with the Virginia Departments of Environmental Quality, Health, and Conservation and Recreation. The program is designed to improve the water quality of Virginia's non-Chesapeake Bay watersheds, and is funded through Virginia's Water Quality Improvement Fund</p>			
Charlotte Court House Emergency Sewer Project	Charlotte, County of	<p>SRWEP</p> <p>CDBG</p> <p>Tobacco Comm.</p>	<p>\$200,000</p> <p>500,000</p> <p>820,905</p>

		<b>Local</b>	<b>46,245</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,567,150</b>
<b>Project Description:</b> The county will remediate an urgent health hazard through the construction of a force main and pump station that will carry sewage to a treatment facility instead of relying on existing drainfields. Presently, one drainfield has failed and another drainfield failure is imminent, and sewage must now be pumped and hauled until a permanent solution is in place. The temporary disposal method is very costly and cannot be sustained. This project will provide a lasting, safe solution for current drainfield users, including the public schools, jail, municipal buildings, and several commercial operations. Through this project, 1,000 linear feet of eight-inch gravity sewer, 2 manholes, one pump station, and 23,000 linear feet of six-inch force main will be installed.			
<b>Ewing Decentralized Wastewater Project</b>	<b>Lee, County of</b>	<b>SRWEP</b>	<b>\$353,620</b>
		<b>Canaan Valley Institute</b>	<b>25,000</b>
		<b>Local</b>	<b>12,500</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$391,120</b>
<b>Project Description:</b> The Ewing community has approximately 23 homes that directly discharge household waste into Indian Creek. To alleviate this severe health hazard, a decentralized wastewater treatment system will be installed, providing a safe and reliable disposal system for the community. As a result of this project, a Septic Tank Effluent Pump system and AdvanTex AX100 Treatment system will be installed.			
<b>Fairhope Road Sewer Extension Project</b>	<b>Roanoke, City of</b>	<b>SRWEP</b>	<b>\$172,940</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$172,940</b>
<b>Project Description:</b> The city, as part of a larger community project, will connect households that currently rely on aging and failing onsite septic systems that are typically 50-60 years old. The system will transport the wastewater flow to the Regional Water Pollution Control Plant, preventing the untreated wastewater from entering the Roanoke River. Following completion of the project, 29 homes will be connected to a safe and reliable public sewer system.			
<b>Route 102/Falls Mills Road Water and Sewer Project</b>	<b>Tazewell, County of</b>	<b>SRWEP</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>Project Description:</b> As part of a larger effort, the County will extend public water and sewer to a community where residents rely on individual private water systems which are generally poor in quality and do not provide an adequate quantity to meet their daily needs. Additionally, due to the lack of adequate wastewater systems, many homes are straight-piping raw sewage into the Bluestone River. Once all communities are connected, a total of 14 homes will use the public sewer system and 16 use the public water system.			
<b>Planning Grants</b>			
<b>Locality</b>	<b>Planning Grant Amount (Funding for Future Projects)</b>		
Vinton, Town of	\$20,000		

September 9, 2008 announcement:

Virginia Community Development Block Grant Program			
Project Title	Locality	Funding Sources	Funds Total
Charlotte Court House Emergency Sewer Project	Charlotte, County of	VCDBG Urgent Needs Open Submission Program	\$500,000
<p><b>Project Description:</b> Remedy an urgent health hazard caused by failing drainfields in Charlotte County. VCDBG grants are awarded through a competitive process using objective scoring criteria developed in consultation with eligible localities. Approval is based on established threshold for low and moderate income benefit, job creation and investment. Most VCDBG projects benefit low and moderate income persons and many projects are targeted for the prevention or elimination of slums and blighting conditions.</p>			
Haysi to Big A Mountain Water Project, Phase II	Dickenson, County of	VCDBG/Construction Ready Water and Sewer Fund	\$390,000
<p><b>Project Description:</b> Grants will provide the funding necessary to address immediate and ongoing health hazards for citizens of Virginia by providing access to clean, safe and reliable water. Construction Ready Water and Sewer Fund grants are awarded to communities with ready-to-start projects that provide water or sewer service to communities of at least 60% low to moderate income households</p>			

**Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting. The turnout was great and participation was excellent. OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, November 18. We will meet in DEQ's new second floor training center. We will begin at 9 a.m. and adjourn by 11.**

*Meade Anderson, DEQ Waste Division, will give an overview of the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) – specifically how the program functions and its relationship to ground water evaluation and remediation. He will discuss in further detail dry cleaner sites which represent 37% of the properties which are enrolled into the VRP. Meade will touch briefly on his role with the State Coalition for Remediation of Drycleaners and how other states manage environmental clean up of drycleaner sites.*

**Please mark your calendar to attend our November meeting. We will also begin planning for our Annual Report!**